

Appl. No. 09/831,004
Atty. Docket No. CM1930
Reply Dated April 12, 2004
Reply to Office Action of December 29, 2003
Customer No. 27752

Claim Amendments

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application.

CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A container for wetted wipes, comprising a container body, a stationary cover being removably fitted on, or integrated to said container body, said stationary cover comprising at least one dispensing opening through which the container contents is removable, a movable lid which is movably attached to said stationary cover, so as to reversibly close said dispensing opening, the container further comprising a gas-proof means which is located between said stationary cover and said movable lid, for providing a gas-tight barrier between the inside and the outside of the container when the movable lid is in the closed position, wherein the gas proof means comprises a gasket seal.

Claim 2. (Original) A container according to claim 1, wherein a spring element is located between said stationary cover and said movable lid, and is charged with an elastic energy when the movable lid is in closed position.

Claim 3. (Previously Presented) A container according to claim 1, wherein a locking mechanism is located between the stationary cover and the movable lid for releasably securing the movable lid in the closed position onto the stationary cover.

Claim 4. (Previously Presented) A container according to claim 3, wherein the locking mechanism comprises a protrusion of the stationary cover which engages against a corresponding protrusion of the movable lid, and a push-button.

Claim 5. (Previously Presented) A container according to claim 1, wherein a pushbutton is an elastically deformable portion of the stationary cover, said push-button being located near enough to the protrusions of the stationary cover and the movable lid, to disengage said protrusion of the movable lid from said protrusion of the stationary cover when said pushbutton is pressed, thus releasing the movable lid into the open position.

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Claim 6. (Previously Presented) A container according to claim 1, further comprising a spring element, wherein the spring element is a metallic single or multiple winding coil spring with elongated ends.

Claim 7. (Previously Presented) A container according to claim 1, further comprising a spring element, wherein the spring element is made out of a synthetic or natural rubber-like material.

Claim 8. (Previously Presented) A container according to claim 1, wherein the gas-proof means is a gasket seal which is located along the periphery of the dispensing opening.

Claim 9. (Previously Presented) A container according to claim 1, wherein the gasket seal is made out of a silicone elastomer.

Claim 10. (Previously Presented) A container according to claim 1, wherein the gasket seal is applied as one or several liquid components which are mixed and then cured in place.

Claim 11. (Previously Presented) A container according to claim 9, wherein the gasket seal is a preformed element fitted into a groove of the stationary cover.

Claim 12. (Previously Presented) A container according to claim 1, wherein the gasket seal is substantially compressed all along its periphery when the movable lid is in the closed position.

Claim 13. (Previously Presented) A container according to claim 1, wherein the stationary cover comprises ribs and grooves which fit into corresponding ribs and grooves of the container body, said stationary cover being adjustably attached to said container body so that the resulting assembling surfaces are edgeless.

Claim 14. (Previously Presented) A container according to claim 12, wherein the stationary cover is an integral part of the top side of the container body, the bottom side of the container body comprising a refill opening which is closed by a removable cover.

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Claim 15. (Previously Presented) A container according to claim 1, which is to be used for disinfectant wipes which are folded for removal one by one from the container.